(a) whether Romania has invited management professionals from India to help their entrepreneurs;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) During the 10th meeting of Indo-Romanian Joint Commission for Economic, Technical and Scientific Co-operation held in New Delhi on 18th & 19th December, 1991, the need for intensive contacts at the levels of the institutions in the two countries, their Chambers of Commerce and commercial enterprises etc. was noted by the two countries. There was however, no specific invitation for the services of management professionals from India for helping Romanian enterprises.

Trade relation with Japan

776. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any steps to improve trade relations with Japan;

(b) if so, what are the different items being exported to and imported from Japan; and

(c) what are the new areas identified for expansion of bilateral trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Japan is an important trade partner for India and steps for improving bilateral trade are taken by the Government on a continuing basis. These include periodic review of trade at official level, exchange of delegations, participation in international fairs in Japan, market surveys etc.

(b) and (c) Iron ore, diamods, shrimps, other ores and minerals, cotton garments chemicals and pharmaceuticals and among major Indian exports to Japan. Iron & Steel, machinery, project goods, transport equipment etc. are items among major Indian imports from Japan.

Leather, light engineering goods, gold jewellery, carpets, readymade garments are among areas which provide immediate possibilities for increasing exports to Japan.

Export of value added goods

777. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prime Minister had desired to export value added goods to earn more foreign exchange and give more employment; and

(b) if so, what incentives are being given and what actions are being taken to encourage value-added goods for exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Fifteen broad sectors/product groups have been identified for making special thrust in markets abroad without minimising the importance of increasing exports from other sectors. The broad approach of the Govt. is towards making export commercially viable through spreading industrial capability ensuring supply of raw materials at competitive prices, strengthening infrastructure and simplifying the procedures, with this objective, the Govt, has introduced a package of trade policy reforms aimed at strengthening of export incentives and eliminating substantial volume of import licensing. REP licences have been replaced by Eximscrips. Export of certain products/product groups such as value-added agriculture products, marine products, electronics, bulk drugs and for-

mulations and certain categories of advanced engineering goods are entitled to an additional Eximscrips of 10 percentage points, taking the total Eximscrips rate to 40 per cent of f.o.b. value, Besides, the system of advance licensing has also been strengthened. The Govt. has also taken several other steps which include activisation of Board of Trade, bilateral discussions with certain countres and interaction with national organisations of trade and industry.

Large Foreign Stake in seafood

778. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news items appeared in 'Economic Times' of the 13th February, 1992 under captioned 'Large Foreign Stake in seafood likely';

(b) if so, whether his Ministry coordinating foreign investment in seafood industry with the nodal Ministry of Food Processing Industries;

(c) what are the details of proposals cleared, giving number of vessels and capacity; and

(d) what steps will be taken to protect Indian entrepreneurs in the fishing industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Government is aware of the news item.

(b) The Ministry of Commerce plays only a promotional and catalytic role with regard to foreigni nvestment in the deepsea fishing industry. All proposals on deep sea fishing are considered by the Empowered Committee of Secretaries on deepsea fishing. The Empowered Committee of Secretaries is jointly serviced by Ministry of Food Processing Industries and Ministry of Commerce.

(c) Details are given in the Statement attached (*See* below).

(d) All proposals for Joint Ventures in Deepsea fishing involve setting up of companies in India by the Indian Entrepreneurs in technical, financial and/or marketing collaboration with foreign companies and as such the interests of Indian entrepreneurs are fully protected.

Statement

The following Joint Venture proposals in Deepsea fishing were approved by the Empowered Committee of Secretaries in its meeting held on 25-10-91

	Name of Indian company	Foreign collaborator	No. & Type of vessels	Fish hold Capacity
1	2	3	4	5
1.	M/s. Leo Seafood Ltd.	M/s. Deepsea fishing Co., Korea	4 stern trawlers 1 factory trawler	170M³/each 1200 M³
2.	M/s. Greaves Cotton & Co.	M/s. Frabella fishing Co., Manila	Tuna purse seiner (Test fishing)	980 tonnes
3.	M/s. C.M. Trading Co.* (P) Ltd.	M/s. Al Union fisheries coop. Ass. USSR	2 factory ships 1 Trawler 1 purse seiner	412 M³ 95 M³ 50 M³
4	s. Oceania Merchandies d.	M/s. Scan Fish Co. Ltd., Denmark	3 stern trawlers	200 M³/each